PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: GENE DIPOTO Confirmation No.: 9623

Serial No.: 10/693,663 Examiner: JAMES L. SWIGER, III

Filed: OCTOBER 24, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: 1291 1142101 Customer No.: 28075

Title: METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR FIXATION OF THE SPINE

THROUGH AN ACESS DEVICE

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper(s) is being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and
Trademark Office on the date shown below

Thu H. Le-To AUGUST 1, 2007

Date

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action of the Examiner mailed May 22, 2007, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on August 22, 2007. This paper is being filed within the set period for response such that no extension of time is necessary.

Please consider the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.